



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Press Release

Media Contact:

Deb Varga, 401-462-0192

dvarga@bhddh.ri.gov

For Immediate Release

Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals (BHDDH) Seeks Public Comments on Combined Behavioral Health and Assessment Plan

The Report can be Found on the BHDDH Website

The 2012 Combined Behavioral Health Assessment and Plan is now available for review or comments on the Department's website.

This block grant plan allows states to tailor prevention and health promotion programs to meet the diverse, complex, and constantly changing public health needs of individual communities. The Assessment and Plan covers the period from October 1, 2011 through June 30, 2013 and incorporates the formerly separate Community Mental Health Services and Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grants. This is the first time that the Department has combined our traditionally separated mental health and substance abuse data into an assessment of our overall behavioral health system.

The four required steps for development of the Assessment and Plan are to 1) assess strengths and needs of service system to address specific populations; 2) identify unmet service needs and critical gaps within the current system; 3) prioritize state planning activities, by population; and 4) objectives, strategies and performance indicators.

The 2012 Combined Behavioral Health Assessment and Plan, as submitted to the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration, is available for review at <http://www.bhddh.ri.gov/bhservices/planning.php>

Comments may be e-mailed to jdealy@bhddh.ri.gov or ekretchman@bhddh.ri.gov.

About the Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals.

BHDDH is committed to assuring access to quality services and support for Rhode Islanders with developmental disabilities, mental health and substance abuse issues and chronic, long-term medical and psychiatric conditions. In addition to planning for the development of new services and prevention activities, the department's mission includes addressing the stigma attached to these disabilities.

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